

1	2	3	4
23. Jhalu		March, 96	80.50
24. Adri		-do-	60.30
25. Kaladungi		-do-	121.90
26. Atsu		-do-	79.80
27. Hargaon		-do-	83.80
Total			1896.83

[English]

Performance of Nuclear Power Plants

1898. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the performance of the country's nuclear power plants has not been according to their designed load factor and that the atomic power generation system has not been found reliable;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) the steps contemplated by the Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) The normative Plant Load Factor (PLF) assumed for fixation of tariff for nuclear power plants is 62.8%. The operating stations of NPCIL achieved an annual overall PLF of 60% during the year 1995-96. In the current financial year upto the end of January 1997, the stations which are operating have achieved an overall PLF of 64%. It is expected to reach 66% for the whole year in spite of the fact that the old stations such as Tarapur Unit-1 and Madras Unit-1 had to undergo long shut down for mandatory in-service inspection (ISI). The new generating units, namely, Kakrapar and Narora Atomic Power Stations have achieved a PLF of 84% and 68% respectively during the current year. Unit-1 of RAPS of 100 MWe capacity is under shut down since February 1994 for fixing the Over Pressure Relief Device (OPRD) leak. This leak was fixed recently and the unit is expected to be re-started early 1997 after approval of AFRB. Unit-2 of RAPS of 200 MWe capacity is also under shut down since August 1994 for enmasse coolant channel replacement and upgradation of systems which are progressing satisfactorily. RAPS-2 is expected to be re-started by end of 1997-98.

(c) Efforts to improve the plant load factor and availability factor of the operating power plants include strengthening of condition monitoring and preventive & predictive - maintenance, improving outage management,

intensive training for maintenance and operating staff particularly in the use of simulators, modifications carried out on the turbo generators supplied by BHEL, effective co-ordination with Regional Electricity Boards to improve frequency control of the grid, decentralisation of decision making to enable prompt action at the operating stations and exchange of technical information and experience through International bodies.

Petrol Pumps

1899. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications of war widows and disabled soldiers received by his ministry for allotting them agencies of petrol pumps and gas agencies during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the allotments have been in all the above cases;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) As per existing policy 7½% dealerships distributorships allotted through Oil Selection Boards are reserved for Defence Category. Widows and dependents of posthumous gallantry award winners and war disabled are accorded priority under Defence Category. Accordingly, during the last three years i.e. 1993-94 to 1995-96, Oil Selection Boards had made selection for 99 retail outlets and 71 LPG distributorships under 'Defence' category. In case of 73 retail outlet dealerships and 95 LPG distributorships, selection has not been made by the Oil Selection Boards as the OSBs are not in operation from April, 1996.

Central Electrical Authority

1900. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Electricity Authority is likely to be divested of its powers; and

(b) if so the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) A study on the role and structure of Central Electricity Authority has been entrusted to Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI), Hyderabad. The Government would take a view only after the recommendations of ASCI are finally available.

Space Research

1901. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :